MARVEL LEGACY

16

THE NEGATIVE ZONE WAR PART 1

GUGGENHEIM • MEDINA • YEUNG • LEISTEN • MARTIN

# X-MEN GOLD™

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# X-MEN GOLD

GENETICALLY GIFTED WITH UNCANNY ABILITIES, MUTANTS ARE BELIEVED TO BE THE NEXT STAGE OF HUMAN EVOLUTION. WHILE THE WORLD HATES AND FEARS THEM, KITTY PRYDE HAS REFORMED THE TEAM OF MUTANT HEROES KNOWN AS THE X-MEN TO USE THEIR POWERS FOR GOOD AND SPREAD A POSITIVE IMAGE OF MUTANTKIND.

## PREVIOUSLY IN *X-MEN GOLD...*

WHEN KITTY'S X-MEN FIRST LEAPT INTO ACTION, THEY STOPPED AN ATTACK BY "THE BROTHERHOOD OF EVIL MUTANTS," ONLY TO FIND OUT THE NEW BROTHERHOOD WERE PAWNS CONTROLLED BY THE TELEPATHIC VILLAIN MESMERO AT THE BEHEST OF LYDIA NANCE, AN ANTI-MUTANT ACTIVIST.

AMONG THE BRAINWASHED BROTHERHOOD MEMBERS WAS A MYSTERIOUS EXTRATERRESTRIAL. THE X-MEN INCARCERATED HIM BELOW THE SCHOOL WITH THE INTENT TO STUDY AND UNDERSTAND HIM. THEIR INVESTIGATION WAS CUT SHORT WHEN A SERIAL KILLER RELEASED HIM FROM BONDAGE, ALLOWING HIM TO USE THE X-MEN'S TECHNOLOGY TO PHONE HOME...

## THE NEGATIVE ZONE WAR

PART 1


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**KITTY PRYDE**

**STORM**
ORORO MUNROE

**NIGHTCRAWLER**
KURT WAGNER

**COLOSSUS**
PIOTR RASPUTIN

**PRESTIGE**
RACHEL GREY

**OLD MAN LOGAN**

MONTHS AGO.
THE HOME OF LYDIA NANCE.

YOU THINK YOU'RE CLEVER. YOU'RE NOT.

YOU THINK YOU'RE HOLDING ALL THE CARDS. YOU DON'T.

THERE'S GONNA COME A MOMENT WHEN YOU SCREW UP, WHEN YOU'RE REVEALED FOR THE *BIGOT* YOU ARE.

I'M NOT A BIGOT AND I RESENT ANY IMPLICATION TO THE CONTRARY.

TODAY.

CROSSTIME

WHEN YOU SINGLE OUT A SPECIFIC PORTION OF THE POPULATION FOR SPECIAL TREATMENT, MS. NANCE, THAT'S *BIGOTRY.*

TELL THAT TO THE CONGRESSMEN AND -WOMEN WHO VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE *MUTANT DEPORTATION BILL*, MS. PRYDE.

BELIEVE ME, I'D *LOVE* TO.

AND WE'RE OUT.

THANK YOU BOTH. THAT WAS REALLY GREAT.

YES, IT WAS A GENUINE PLEASURE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, KATHERINE.

I'M SORRY. YOU PREFER "KITTY," DON'T YOU?

I'VE NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHY A WOMAN WOULD CHOOSE A GIRL'S NAME...

CAN I ASK YOU A QUESTION?

THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE ALWAYS BEEN CURIOUS ABOUT, AND I FIGURE YOU'RE THE PERSON TO ASK.

YES?

I MANAGE TO GET UP IN THE MORNING, GET DRESSED, DO MY JOB, TRY TO FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON BETWEEN ME AND THIS GUY I'VE GOT HISTORY WITH. OCCASIONALLY, I HELP SAVE THE WORLD.

Y'KNOW, LIVE MY LIFE.

AND I DO IT ALL WITHOUT FEELING THE NEED TO DEMONIZE ANOTHER GROUP OF PEOPLE. I JUST...

...***DON'T CARE*** THAT PEOPLE ARE DIFFERENT THAN ME BECAUSE, WELL, ***PEOPLE ARE DIFFERENT.***

SO I'M GENUINELY CURIOUS...

...WHAT IS SO ***BROKEN*** INSIDE PEOPLE LIKE YOU THAT YOU HAVE TO TARGET ANYONE WHO'S DIFFERENT?

"I WANTED TO ***KILL*** HER..."

BUT YOU DIDN'T.

I HAVEN'T COMPLETELY RULED OUT THE POSSIBILITY.

WELL, I THOUGHT YOU WERE QUITE ARTICULATE, KATYA.

THANKS.

PHANTO

AND THIS "GUY" YOU MENTIONED, THE ONE YOU SAID YOU LIKED...

WHAT? HOW DID YOU...?

YOU MIGHT HAVE STILL BEEN WEARING YOUR MICROPHONE.

I HATE MY LIFE SOMETIMES...

SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN TO--

PALACE

WEST

FOR SOMEONE WHO SAYS SHE'S "CONFUSED," YOU SEEM TO KEEP KISSING ME...

YEAH.

THAT'S WHY YOU ARE NOT THE ONLY ONE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT "WHAT IS GOING ON" WITH US.

MAYBE WE SHOULD FIGURE IT OUT.

WHAT'S THIS?

LE PARKER MERIDIEN HOTEL

ROOM KEY.

"WELL, THIS AIN'T BAD..."

NO, I GOTTA SAY...

MUTANTS = AMERICANS

FIRST THEY CAME FOR THE MUTANTS

NO MUTANT DEPORTATION

RESIST

X-MEN ARE HUMAN

EQUALITY FOR ALL

UNITY

WE'RE ALL MUTANTS

...THIS AIN'T BAD AT ALL.

CENTRAL PARK. MANHATTAN.

THINK SOMEBODY OUGHTA GO OUT THERE, SAY A FEW WORDS?

ARE YOU VOLUNTEERING, LOGAN?

YOU KNOW ME BETTER'N THAT, 'RO.

FIRST THEY CAME FOR THE MUTANTS

WHERE'S *KÄTZCHEN*? SHE REALLY SHOULD SEE THIS...

I HOPE EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT...

SHE DID THE *CROSSTIME* SHOW LAST NIGHT. I'M NOT SURE IF SHE MADE IT BACK TO THE MANSION...

"JUST *HAD* TO GO AND SAY THAT, DIDN'T YA, ELF?"

BREACH PORTAL OPENED AT THE SITE OF LORD KOLOGOTH'S LAST TRANSMISSION, SIR.

BREACH AND COMMENCE SCANNING FOR OUR LIEGE.

YES, PRELATE AUGOR.

GUYS! GUYS, WE JUST GOT AN ALERT FROM NASA.

THEY SAID THERE'S EXTRATERRESTRIAL ACTIVITY.

YEAH...

"...SOUNDS ABOUT RIGHT."

WE DON'T KNOW IT'S A HOSTILE.

YEAH, 'CAUSE THEY ALMOST *NEVER* ARE.

ANOLE, GET PETER.

RACHEL, CAN YOU GET IN CONTACT WITH KITTY?

WORKING ON IT...

KITTY, WE'VE GOT A SITUATION HERE...

MRMRM. WHAT KINDA SITUATION?

PUTTING THE IMAGE IN YOUR HEAD NOW...

DAMN.

WHERE ARE YOU? I'LL HAVE KURT TELEPORT YOU BACK.

I'M, UH, I'M AT THE PARKER MERIDIEN HOTEL. ROOM 487.

COPY. I'LL SEND KURT AND WE'RE WORKING ON FINDING PETER.

UH...NO NEED.

HE'S KINDA HERE WITH ME.

YOU DOG...

AS TEAM LEADER, I AM *ORDERING* YOU NOT TO ENJOY THIS.

TOO LATE.

SOMETIMES I WONDER IF GOD HATES ME.

ALL RIGHT, LET'S ALL TRY TO STAY CALM HERE...

WE DON'T KNOW IF THE SHIP'S INTENTIONS ARE HOSTILE. REMAIN CALM AND DISPERSE IN AN ORDERLY FASHION.

ANTI-ALIEN HUMAN

DO WHAT SHE SAYS OR ELSE I'M GONNA START EXSANGUINATING FOLKS...

WHAT?

GUYS, THERE'S A SQUADRON RESPONDING...GUESS SOME ALPHA FLIGHT PILOTS WEREN'T READY TO CALL IT QUITS.

WHAT KINDA RESPONSE?

CHOOM

CHOOM

CHOOM

THEIR WEAPONS ARE PRIMITIVE, BUT A SUSTAINED ATTACK CARRIES THE POTENTIAL FOR SOME DAMAGE.

HOW LONG CAN WE MAINTAIN THE BREACH PORTAL?

THREE KELIGS.

BROADCAST WIDEWAVE TO LORD KOLOGOTH. WE MAY NOT HAVE THE TIME TO SEARCH FOR HIM, BUT WE CAN STILL BRING HIM TO US.

AND IN THE MEANTIME...

"...RETURN FIRE."

BAMF

STATUS?

OUR SPACE INVADERS JUST WIPED OUT THOSE ALPHA FLIGHT LEFTOVERS.

ORORO, RACHEL, YOU'RE FIRST WAVE. GO GET THEIR ATTENTION.

[illegible]

[illegible]

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
PERHAPS THEY ARE TRYING TO CONTACT SOMEONE.
OKAY...
BUT WHO?
AND AGAIN...
...MY PATIENCE IS REWARDED.
BAMF
NICE WORK. THE SHIP'S NO LONGER FIRING ON CIVILIANS.

WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?

TO MEET...

WHOEVER'S INSIDE THIS THING

PRELATE, I HAVE VISUAL CONTACT WITH LORD KOLOGOTH.

BRING THE SHIP DOWN.

YEAH, THIS AIN'T GOOD.

BAMF

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE, FUZZY ELF?

BACKING YOU UP.

WE DON'T KNOW...

...HOW HEAVILY ARMED THEY ARE.

OH, I THINK WE'VE GOT A PRETTY GOOD IDEA NOW...

WHACK

I GOT HIM, PETER.

LOGAN!!!

LOGAN--

SONOFA...

FOOM

"LORD KOLOGOTH IS IN EXTRACTION POSITION."

LANDFALL IN THREE... TWO...

"...ONE."

MOY BOG...

CRIPES...

BRIGHT LADY...

MY LORD...

...AND MY LOVE.

I FEARED I WOULD NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN.

I DIDN'T. I ALWAYS KNEW MY BELOVED AUGOR WOULD COME FOR ME.

WE MUST LEAVE. THE BREACH PORTAL CANNOT BE SUSTAINED FOR VERY LONG.

JUST AS WELL...

"...I LONG TO LEAVE THIS MUDBALL OF A PLANET.

"I'VE BEEN ITS *PRISONER* FAR TOO LONG.

"TAKE ME HOME.

"THERE ARE MANY WHO NEED TO SUFFER."

MR. LOGAN...

ARRGHH!

AH!

PLEASE DON'T KILL ME...

SORRY, HISAKO.

REFLEX.

HOW LONG WAS I OUT?

I'M NOT SURE...

SITUATION REPORT.

PROFESSOR MUNROE AND PROFESSOR RASPUTIN ARE ALL RIGHT.

"I'M NOT SURE ABOUT MS. GREY."

THE KITTEN AND THE ELF?

NO BIOSIGNS. WE THINK--I THINK THEY'RE STILL ON THE SHIP.

SO WHERE'S THE SHIP?

"GONE."

MR. LOGAN... WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

WE'RE GONNA @#$*% GET THEM BACK.

NEXT: THE NEGATIVE ZONE!

# X-MEN

## THE GOLD STANDARD

MARC **GUGGENHEIM** WRITER
CHRIS **ROBINSON** ASSISTANT EDITOR
MARK **PANICCIA** X-MEN GROUP EDITOR

Ahoy X-Keepers,

***I don't know what an "X-Keeper" is, but I like the sound of it!***

Loving X-MEN GOLD. I recently rebought all my X-Men comics from my youth and re-read through them. I am wondering what the chances are for the Brood, Nimrod and the Blob to make a reappearance? Also, what are the Starjammers up to these days? Two words: Space Pirates!

X-treme accolades!
Derek Showerman
Dover, NH

***Derek, you're a man after my own heart! The Brood Saga remains one of my all-time favorite X-Men arcs. And I love me some Starjammers. Hopefully, the arc that begins this issue scratches a little bit of that itch for you. Ever since I started thinking about GOLD, I wanted to take the X-Men into space--but with a twist. The result is the book you're holding in your hands (or the one displayed on your tablet). I hope you dig.***

Hi! X-MEN GOLD team and fellow readers,

I am loving this series! With Steve Rogers being evil this is easily my favorite book to read! Thank you for that moment between Storm and Gambit in issue #6! I always loved the interpersonal relationships that take place between X-Men. Is there possibly still a chance for Colossus and Kitty? Any chance for some space adventures in the future?

Sincerely,
Kyle Markley

***Hey, Kyle! Thanks for reading! I'm sorry it took Steve Rogers being evil for us to become your favorite, but I'll take it! And I couldn't agree more about the interpersonal relationships in the X-Men books. The soap opera element is a cornerstone of the X-Men franchise, in my opinion. As for Kitty and Peter, all I can say is that you're gonna wanna keep reading the arc that begins in this issue...***

I have to admit I was a bit skeptical at first when I heard about the relaunch of the X-Books as they had gotten rather stale and was even thinking of dropping them all together. Thank Galactus (yes, that's something I actually say) I didn't do that. I only really got into comics recently and the Techno Superior arc is one the best I've read so far. Issue #4's revelation made me want the next issue immediately and I can't even imagine how agonizing the wait is going to be. You guys are the best there is at what you do, but unlike Logan, what you do is NOICE!!! (not a typo btw)

M. Koroma
Fukuoka, Japan

***First, thank you for teaching me a new word! Glad you dug issue #4. The deeper we get into this series, the more elements can come into play. By the grace of Galactus--and with a little luck--each issue improves upon the one that came before it.***

Wow! That Kurt and Rachel kiss came straight outta nowhere! I wasn't expecting that at all. It was a big shocker. I didn't even realize they even had any feelings for each other. It sure is interesting that you are having the two of them hook up. I didn't see Rachel having feelings for Kurt coming. She spends so much time with Kitty that I must have completely missed her 'Crawler lust. I completely missed Kurt's feelings for her also; I guess I was so caught up in his interactions with Storm and Logan. Interesting choice!

Nathan

***Actually, Nathan, the Rachel/Kurt relationship--Rurt? Kachel?--takes its inspiration from UNCANNY X-MEN #450 -- a very deep cut, I know. Check it out:***

***I think I used up all my remaining letters page real estate with that art, so that's all the space we have for today. See you all again in two weeks. Be good to each other.***

***Best,***
***Marc Guggenheim***
***Burbank, California***

**SEND LETTERS TO OFFICEX@MARVEL.COM. MARK YOUR MAIL, "OKAY TO PRINT!"**

# HOUSE OF X

**In the HOUSE OF X, we're getting ready for something really special, RESURRXION PHASE II. That's right, we'll be cycling in some new ongoings and a few special limited series.**

**While I can't talk about all of what's in the cooker, I can tell you that lovers of the classic on-again, off-again romance between Rogue and Gambit have a special treat in store with a ROGUE & GAMBIT five-issue limited series coming out in January. It's by KELLY (HAWKEYE, A-FORCE) THOMPSON and PERE (DEADPOOL VS. PUNISHER) PÉREZ, and the two are bringing a smart, sassy and seductive flavor to this dysfunctional duo.**

**Then there's LEGION, another five-issue limited series by PETER (X-FORCE, X-STATIX) MILLIGAN and WILFREDO (MOON KNIGHT, SECRET EMPIRE: BRAVE NEW WORLD) TORRES. Peter brings his own brand of brilliant insanity while Wilfredo's keen sense of body language and expression adds to the inherent eccentricity of the character and the story. I highly recommend both of these books.**

**Now for teasing upcoming projects, I can say that there are at least two new ongoing series in development. One completely unexpected and the other a return of a fan favorite. It's too early to get into any more than that, but I'm sure most X-Fans will be excited when we make the announcements. Keep your eyes and ears open!**

**Now onto our checklist of the wonderful world of X:**

### X-MEN GOLD:

By Marc Guggenheim and Marc Laming. Kitty Pryde takes charge and leads a new team into a heroic age!
*Issue #16 on sale now!*

### X-MEN BLUE:

By Cullen Bunn and Jorge Molina. The time-displaced original five join their greatest enemy, Magneto. Evil mutants, you're toast!
*Issue #16!*

### WEAPON X:

By Greg Pak, Marc Borstel and Ibraim Roberson. The Weapon X program is back, but this time they are building weapons of mutant destruction. Old Man Logan, Sabretooth and a team of stealthy killers take the bloody battle back to them.
*Issue #12!*

### ALL-NEW WOLVERINE:

By Tom Taylor and Juann Cabal. A virus from another world threatens to wipe out mankind. Kicking off an epic tale that will take Laura Kinney to the stars.
*Issue #27 on sale now!*

### GENERATION X:

By Christina Strain and Eric Koda. Jubilee and a band of mutant misfits in the new Xavier Institute. What could go wrong? EVERYTHING!
*Issue #85!*

### JEAN GREY:

By Dennis Hopeless and Victor Ibáñez. She's the leader of X-MEN BLUE, but what does she do in her spare time? What would you do if you had a premonition of the Phoenix Force returning?
*Issue #9!*

### CABLE:

By Ed Brisson and Jon Malin. A new villain is traveling through time to assemble a doomsday weapon. Cable's most dangerous mission ever!
*Issue #151 on now!*

### ICEMAN:

By Sina Grace and Robert Gill. The coolest hero on the planet, Bobby Drake the elder, in super-hero solo adventures.
*Issue #7 on sale now!*

### OLD MAN LOGAN:

By Ed Brisson and Mike Deodato Jr. Who is the Scarlet Samurai?!
*Issue #31!*

### ASTONISHING X-MEN:

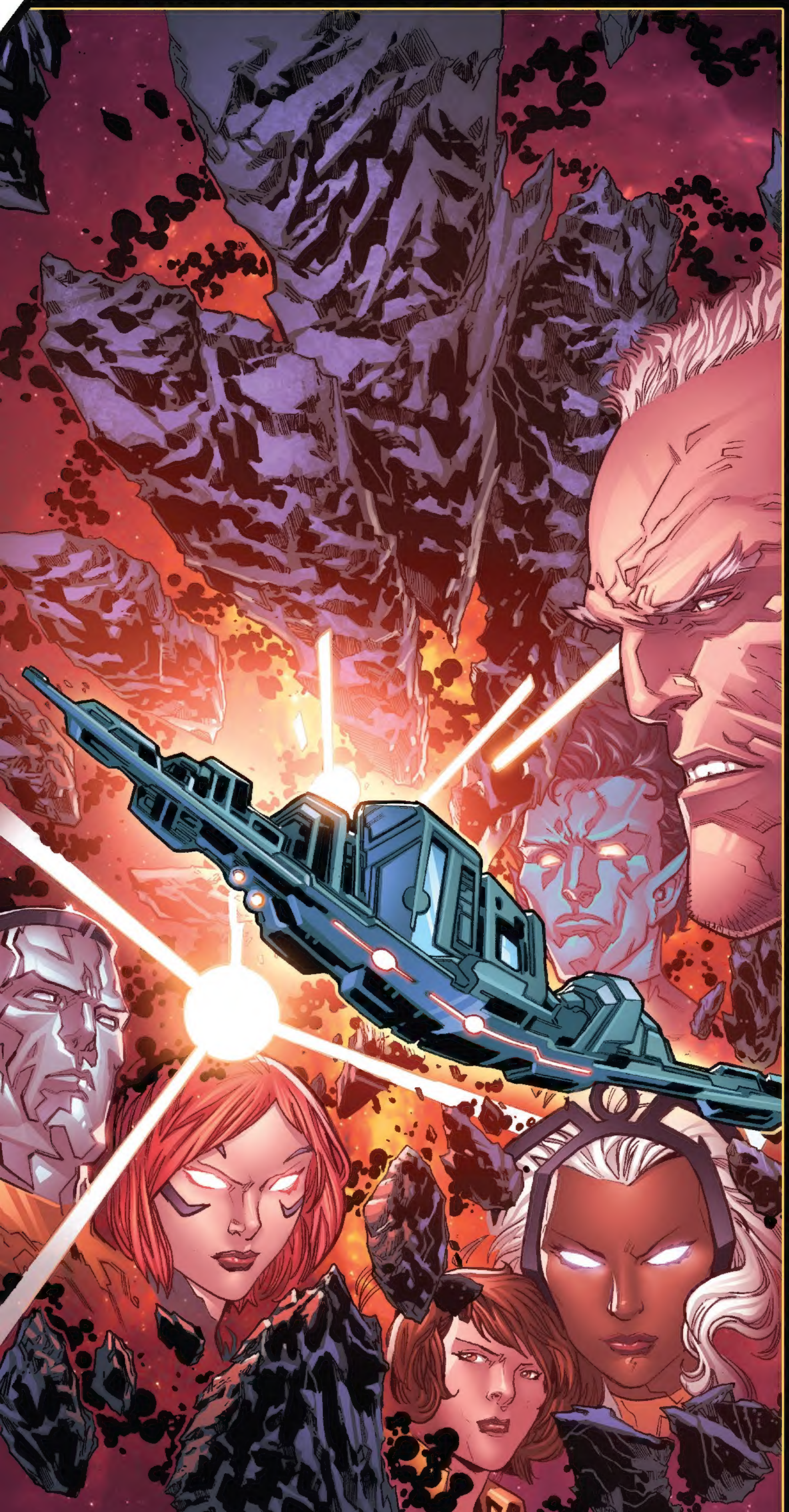
By Charles Soule and a murderers' row of chart-topping and up-and-coming artists. Fan-favorite characters battle one of the X-Men's most dangerous foes!
*Issue #6!*

**Make sure to let us know your thoughts. You can email us at officex@marvel.com (add "OKAY TO PRINT" in the subject line). And don't forget about #XMENMONDAY on Twitter, where I'll post some tidbit from one or more of the books and address your questions. I can't guarantee an answer for everybody, but I'll do my darndest!**

*Mark Paniccia*
*Senior Editor*
*MARVEL COMICS*
*@MARKPANICCIA*

# X-MEN GOLD

## X-MEN GOLD #17 IN TWO WEEKS



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ON SALE NOW

## JEAN GREY #9
NEXT WEEK

## WEAPON X #12
NEXT MONTH

ZONE